



Date: December 5, 2005
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report For Week Ending December 2, 2005

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending December 2, 2005. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP #12

Personal Preparedness: Be in the Know! Five Days of Self-Reliance!

Finances

- Keep a sizable amount of cash readily available in the event of a disaster.
- Residents are encouraged not to rely on banks and ATM's to work, since all functions run electronically and during a disaster may not be available.

For previous tips and a complete guide to planning and preparation for an emergency, visit www.longbeach.gov.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Police

After 27 weeks of intense academic, physical and practical training in areas such as Patrol Procedures and Law Enforcement Tactics, Firearms Training, Weaponless Defense, Criminal Law, Vehicle Operations, Community Oriented Public Safety, and Cultural Diversity and Human Relations, 52 recruits graduated from the Long Beach Police Academy on Wednesday. These new officers will be in a field-training program with a senior officer for a one-year period.

Civil Service

On Thursday, November 17, the Civil Service Department administered the written examination for Police Recruit positions. Approximately 900 job candidates filled the Long Beach Convention Center where they completed the first step in becoming a Long Beach Police Officer. Those who pass the written examination will go on to the next phase in the testing process, which is the physical ability test conducted by the Police Department. It is anticipated that 60-70 successful candidates will start the rigorous 26-week police academy in June 2006.

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MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Public Works, Long Beach Airport

The Long Beach Airport Terminal Improvements Draft EIR was discussed at a public meeting on Saturday, December 3, in the City Council Chambers from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. An overview of the findings of the Draft EIR was presented and the public had an opportunity to provide comments that will be addressed in the final EIR. Another public meeting will be held on Monday, December 5 at the Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Avenue, at 6:00 p.m.

Fire

Twenty-five community members completed the six-week Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program on November 19. At the graduation, participants demonstrated their new skills in fire suppression, disaster first aid, search and rescue techniques, and disaster preparedness for their friends and families.

More than 200 residents and businesses are on the waiting list for the Fire Department's CERT Program. To accommodate the large number of people interested in emergency training, two classes have been scheduled to run simultaneously on January 12 and January 18, 2006. For more details, visit www.longbeach.gov/fire or send an email to Paul_Rodriguez@longbeach.gov.

The Greater Long Beach Chapter of the Red Cross also offers training on CPR/First Aid, First Responder, and Disaster Preparedness. Visit www.greaterlongbeachrc.org, or call 595.6341.

Health and Human Services

On November 17, the Health Department's Bioterrorism Preparedness Committee conducted a Point of Dispensing (POD) set-up exercise to test its mass medicine dispensing plans. The main goals of the exercise were to ensure the Department's ability to set up a POD site and to familiarize staff with their medicine dispensing roles and responsibilities in the event of a public health emergency. Tours of the POD were given to community partners and City Departments after the set-up was completed. A full-scale exercise is set for February 2, 2006 where volunteers will be asked to participate as mock patients.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Want to know about holiday events in the Long Beach? Simply check out the City's website at www.longbeach.gov.

Community Development, Workforce Development Bureau

Job seekers will have the opportunity to meet with business representatives and learn about various community resources at Career Expo 2005, to be held **Tuesday, December 6**, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. The event will provide a dual purpose of providing job opportunities and employment resources to jobseekers, and of providing businesses with candidates for open positions. A partial list of businesses is available at www.longbeach.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

On **December 6**, the North Long Beach Business Corridor Revitalization Project will kick off the Artesia Boulevard phase with a meeting at St John's Lutheran Church, 6698 Orange Avenue. The Neighborhood Services Bureau invites North Long Beach business and property owners to meet with staff from Economic Development, Code Enforcement, Planning and Building, the Long Beach Redevelopment Agency and the Long Beach Police Department's North Patrol Division.

The North Long Beach Business Corridor Revitalization Project encourages business and property owners to improve the appearance of their storefronts with code enforcement inspections and \$2,000 Commercial Improvement Rebates to address code deficiencies and facade improvements. The Artesia Boulevard phase includes business and commercial property owners from the western Long Beach city limits to Cherry Avenue.

For more information, please call Phillip Jennings at 570-6007 or Phillip_Jennings@longbeach.gov.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police

People are encouraged to take extra precautions during this holiday season while shopping and around your home and/or business.

Shopping Safety Tips:

- Place all gifts and packages in your trunk or out of sight.
- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Park in well lighted areas.
- Avoid shopping alone; there is safety in numbers.
- Try to use credit or debit cards for purchases to avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Keep your car doors locked and windows closed.
- If you carry a purse or bag, carry it up close to your body.

Business Safety Tips:

- Lock unused doors.
- Only keep necessary cash in the register; vary the schedule and route for your bank deposits each day.
- Make sure your cash register is clearly visible to passers-by.
- Advertise your security alarm system with signs in visible locations.
- Develop a mutual aid system among stores close to you or on your block.

Home Safety Tips

- Keep gifts away from windows.
- Practice regular home security.
- If traveling, postpone your mail and newspaper deliveries.
- Do not store gifts in vehicles or unsecured areas.
- Take proper fire prevention measures.

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 680 emergency calls for service: 64 calls for fires, of which 15 involved structures; and 353 emergency medical calls, of which 248 required paramedics.

Police

The Police Department continues to target quality of life issues such as prostitution-related crimes. The Vice Detail and East Community Policing Team in the area of Pacific Coast Highway and Molino Avenue conducted a "John" Program. During the operation, 12 males were arrested for soliciting prostitutes, one female was arrested for possession of cocaine and nine vehicles were towed.

The Vice Detail conducted a Minor Decoy program at establishments to identify businesses that illegally sell liquor to minors. Fourteen locations were targeted and three were issued citations.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Fire

On November 16, the Long Beach Fire Department gave a CERT and Disaster Preparedness presentation to residents of the Bixby Hill Community. Over 50 residents heard about the CERT training available to Long Beach residents, as well as important steps they can take to better prepare themselves and their families in the event of a catastrophic disaster.

On November 23, Long Beach Fire Ambassadors and Engine 11 visited Addams Elementary to teach third grade students the importance of fire safety. Students went through the Fire Safety House.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

From November 13 through November 19, staff completed a total of 3,317 service calls. This total included 953 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 1,011 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,043 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 310 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 566 emergency phone calls that resulted in 126 emergency orders being sent out.

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OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE (continued)

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

From November 20 through November 26, staff completed a total of 1,767 service calls. This total included 598 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 382 Turn Offs. During this period, 654 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 133 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 459 emergency phone calls that resulted in 95 emergency orders being sent out.

Public Works, Street Improvements

Contact: 570.5160

Anaheim St. St. Louis Ave. to Obispo

Estimated Completion: January 2006

Del Amo Blvd.	Los Angeles River to Long Beach Blvd.
Artesia Blvd.	West of Long Beach Blvd. to Harbor St.
Atlantic Ave.	North of Artesia Blvd. to a point North of 68th St.
Cherry Ave.	North of Artesia Blvd. to 70th St.
Artesia Blvd.	East of Obispo Ave. to Downey Ave.
7th Street	Junipero Ave. and Redondo Ave.

Estimated Completion: December 2005

Long Beach Water, Alley Service Lateral Conversion

Contact: 570. 2326

Cedar Ave.	E. Burnett St. to Hill St.
Chestnut Ave.	E. Burnett St. to Hill St.
Pasadena Ave.	E. Burnett St. to Pacific Electric Railroad
Linden Ave.	E. Burnett St. to 25 th Way

Estimated Completion: April 2006

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
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City Manager Department Heads
Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs
Jyl Marden, City Council Liaison